



United States Department of Justice

**United States Attorney
Southern District of West Virginia**

Robert C. Byrd United States Courthouse
300 Virginia Street, East
Suite 4000
Charleston, WV 25301
FAX: 304-347-5104

Mailing Address
Post Office Box 1713
Charleston, WV 25326-1713
304-345-2200
1-800-659-8726

February 10, 2011

**Re: WV Summit on Prescription Drug Abuse
February 25, 2011
University of Charleston
Geary Student Union Bldg. – Ballroom
Charleston, WV**

Dear Colleague:

Having strong communities is undoubtedly the lifeblood of this state's growth and progress. However, one issue that has grown to epidemic proportions and poses a threat to many of our communities is prescription drug abuse. In West Virginia and across the country, we have seen the prevalence of prescription drug abuse rise and the burden that is being placed on many families, communities and businesses, become all too common. In 2009 alone, approximately 350 people died as a result of prescription drug-related overdoses in our state. We cannot stand idly by and let the abuse of prescription drugs continue to grow.

West Virginia has united in an effort to develop a comprehensive response to prescription drug abuse. On February 25, 2011, the U.S. Attorney's Office of the Southern District of West Virginia, the Governor's Office and a host of other partners will convene a one-day Summit on Prescription Drug Abuse at the University of Charleston. Beginning at 8:30 a.m., we will conduct a roundtable-style meeting to discuss the nature of the problem pertaining to prescription drug abuse, create networks for a successful response and develop recommendations for future action. Your time and participation to help combat this issue is critical.

Please register to attend by going to www.justice.gov/usao/wvs/ and click on "Register to Attend WV Summit on Prescription Drug Abuse" or by calling 1-800-659-8726, no later than February 18, 2011. I encourage you to register early, because space is limited.

We hope you can join us at this important event. If you have any questions, or need additional information, please feel free to call Deanna Eder at 304-345-2200, x3090 or email her at deanna.eder@usdoj.gov.

Sincerely,

R. BOOTH GOODWIN II
United States Attorney

